

MAGTF Expeditionary Family of Fighting Vehicles and Future Combat System

The Marine Corps is taking many steps to continue its transformation into the next decade. One example is the Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) Expeditionary Family of Fighting Vehicles (MEFFV) program. The timing of this vehicular element of transformation allows the Marine Corps program to leverage science and technology investments by Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Army in the Future Combat Systems program. This approach is designed to generate Army-Marine Corps synergy, while remaining mindful of the unique requirements of the sea-based expeditionary MAGTF.

The MEFFV will provide the Ground Combat Element commander a family of manned ground-combat vehicles configured to capitalize on the joint capabilities available within the integrated Joint Task Force (JTF) in the 2015-2020 time-frame and beyond. MEFFV-equipped units will provide robust, sea-based, tailorable, combined arms forces to the MAGTF and JTF commander. These combined arms units will be capable of a sustained shaping campaign at the operational level and decisive operations at the tactical level. MEFFV-equipped units will be adaptable, operationally mobile, lethal, survivable, and support joint task organization. The

equipment, training, and operating concepts employed by these MEFFV units will contribute to the five capability enhancements identified in Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare, as well as the enhanced command and control (C2) and material interoperability, which are specific goals of the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System. There will be commonality across both the Army and Marine Corps families of vehicles, while maintaining configurations tailored for the differences in Army and Marine operating environments.

MEFFV fielding is targeted to coincide with end of service times for both the Light Armored Vehicles and M1A1 tanks currently in the Marine Corps inventory. This timing will enable an uninterrupted continuation of the mounted combat capability demonstrated during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The MEFFV initiative and the family of vehicles it generates will ultimately translate into increased tactical flexibility in the field. Such flexibility is a hallmark of Marine Corps operations and will be critical in future crisis-response and anti-terrorism operations, in addition to our traditional warfighting tasks. The Marine Corps is taking many steps to continue its transformation further.